

Message Text

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ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10
INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00
AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-15 JUSE-00 OIC-02 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12
NEA-11 /169 W

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P 161843Z JUN 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0967
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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USMTN

PASS STR ELECTRONICALLY FOR SEASTRUM, PASS COMMERCE FOR
HOLEC

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: MTN, ETRD, AU
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR MCDONALD'S MEETING WITH COLIN TEESE,
ACTING AUSTRALIAN HEAD-OF-DELEGATION

1. AMBASSADOR MCDONALD MET BRIEFLY JUNE 15 WITH COLIN
TEESE, WHO ARRIVED IN GENEVA THIS WEEK TO STAND-IN FOR
FOGARTY FOR THE DURATION OF THE LATTER'S MEDICAL LEAVE.

2. WE LEARNED THAT THE AUSTRALIAN REVISED TARIFF OFFERS,
BASED UPON SOME VARIANT OF THE SWISS FORMULA, WOULD BE
READY FOR GENERAL DISTRIBUTION BY THE END OF THE MONTH.
EXCEPTIONS GENERALLY WOULD BE CONFINED TO THE FOLLOWING
SECTORS: MOTOR VEHICLES, TEXTILES, CERTAIN DOMESTIC
APPLIANCES, FOOTWEAR, WOOD PRODUCTS; AS WELL AS OTHER
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ARTICLES FOR WHICH THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE AUTHORITY HAS
RECOMMENDED PROTECTIVE ACTION.

3. MCDONALD PRAISED AUSTRALIA'S DECISION TO ADOPT THE
WORKING HYPOTHESIS, BUT HE WONDERED WHETHER THE U.S. WOULD
BE IN A POSITION POLITICALLY TO GIVE AUSTRALIA FULL CREDIT
FOR THIS STEP IF THERE WERE TO BE NO REDUCTIONS IN THE

CURRENTLY APPLIED RATES UNTIL 1984 OR 85. TEESE REPLIED THAT WHILE THE BULK OF RATES MIGHT NOT BE REDUCED IN THE SHORT TERM THE INCREASE IN AUSTRALIA'S BINDINGS TO MORE THAN 90 PERCENT OF ITS SCHEDULES WAS SUCH A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION THAT DELAYED IMPLEMENTATION SHOULD PALE BY COMPARISON. TEESE ADDED THAT IT WAS HIS PERSONAL VIEW THAT AUSTRALIA WOULD OFFER IMMEDIATE BINDING OF ITS CURRENT APPLIED RATES, RATHER THAN THE ALTERNATIVE OF OFFERING (THROUGH 1984) CEILING BINDINGS BASED UPON THE PRE-1973 RATE.

4. MCDONALD PRESSED TEESE FOR A RESPONSE BY AUSTRALIA TO U.S. REQUESTS ON NTMNDWMS, RESPONSES WHICH HAD BEEN PROMISED BY THE AUSTRALIAN MTN DELEGATION SINCE FEBRUARY. WE ALSO PRESSED FOR IMPROVEMENTS OF AUSTRALIA'S AGRICULTURAL OFFERS WHICH GENERALLY FELL FAR SHORT OF U.S. REQUESTS. TEESE APOLOGIZED FOR THE LACK OF PROGRESS IN THESE AREAS BUT EXPLAINED AUSTRALIA'S INACTION BY THE FACT THAT IN RECENT WEEKS ALL ABLE BODIES WERE WORKING ON THE AUSTRALIAN TARIFF FORMULA OFFER. HE PROMISED TO INFORM CANBERRA THAT THESE SUBJECTS HAD AGAIN BEEN RAISED BY THE U.S., AND TO REQUEST THAT THEY RECEIVE EARLY AND PRIORITY ATTENTION BY THE GOA. HE ALSO DISCLOSED THAT A CONCRETE OFFER ON TOBACCO MIXING REGULATIONS AND TOBACCO TARIFFS WOULD BE TABLED WHEN THE U.S. SITS DOWN WITH AUSTRALIA ON THE LATTER'S MEAT AND DAIRY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REQUESTS. (AS INSTRUCTED, WE NOTIFIED THE AUSTRALIANS THAT THE U.S. WOULD BE PREPARED TO HOLD SUCH CONSULTATIONS DURING THE FIRST OR SECOND WEEK OF JULY.)

5. MCDONALD ASKED TEESE FOR HIS REACTION TO THE CURRENT SITUATION AT THE LONDON GRAINS TALKS. TEESE VOLUNTEERED THAT AUSTRALIA'S WORST FEAR WAS THAT A COURSE GRAINS ARRANGEMENT WOULD BE "GRAFTED" ONTO THE WHEAT AGREEMENT, THEREBY WEAKENING THE LATTERS UTILITY TO EXPORTERS. ON THE DRAFT MEAT ARRANGEMENT, AUSTRALIA BELIEVES THE EC STILL HOPES THAT "JOINT DISCIPLINES" WILL JUSTIFY A DE FACTO RENUNCIATION BY IMPORTERS OF THE USE OF COUNTERVAILING DUTIES ON BEEF. TEESE FEELS IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THE U.S. AND OTHER MEAT IMPORTERS MAKE CLEAR THAT THEY WILL NOT RENOUNCE USE OF COUNTERVAILING DUTIES IN EXCHANGE FOR SOME AMORPHOUS PHRASE SUCH AS JOINT DISCIPLINE.

6. ON SAFEGUARDS, TEESE WARNED THAT AUSTRALIA COULD NOT GIVE UP ITS RIGHT TO ARTICLE XIX AND PUT ITSELF UNDER A NEW DISPUTE SETTLEMENT MECHNAISM FOR SAFEGUARD ACTIONS WHILE OTHERS SUCH AS SWITZERLAND (AND THE UNITED STATES)

WERE PROTECTED, BY THE GRANDFATHER CLAUSE, FROM PARALLEL DISCIPLINES OVER THEIR SAFEGUARD MEASURES ON AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

7. WE WERE PLEASED TO LEARN THAT AUSTRALIA PLANS TO HAVE MINISTERIAL-LEVEL REPRESENTATION (VIC GARLAND) IN GENEVA DURING THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF JULY, AS WELL AS TO BRING IN ADDITIONAL STAFF FOR THEIR MTN DELEGATION, WHICH AT THIS POINT IS SORELY UNDERSTAFFED.

8. DRAFTED BY MARSH. MCDONALD

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